

NEWS SUMMARY

Civil Service union poll set for re-run

The 150,000 members of Britain's largest Civil Service union expect to be told this week that there will be a re-run of the election which earlier this year installed the Militant Mr John Macreadie as its general secretary...

Radio quiz scrapped

The BBC yesterday rejected suggestions that the long-running schools' radio quiz programme, Top of the Form, was being scrapped because its competitive basis is unfashionable in progressive educational circles...

Bat caves 3 stabbed

Britain's first artificial bat cave was officially opened in north-west London at the weekend to provide a winter home for the protected nocturnal animals.

Police call to stop guns show

A call to end the open arming of policemen at airports threatened by terrorism is to be debated by senior officers at the annual conference of the Police Superintendents' Association...

Firearms given back

Mr Ian Wood, the solicitor wanted for questioning about two murders, has twice had his collection of guns confiscated because.

Ice rink protests

The Rev Ian Paisley (right) led protesters yesterday at the Sunday opening of the new £4.5 million Dendonald International ice bowl, Belfast.



Churches quarrel

Bishop defends his pastoral care of 'deposed' US priest

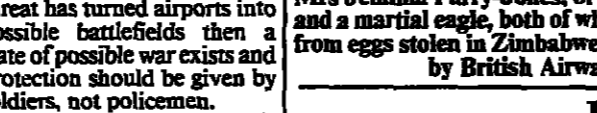
An unprecedented crisis in the relationship between the Church of England and its American counterpart, the Episcopal Church, has arisen over the intervention of the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, in an ecclesiastical quarrel in Oklahoma.

Inquiry into Property Services Agency's missing millions MPs to probe building 'scandals'

A full-scale inquiry is about to be launched by the Commons environment select committee into what one of its members has described as the 'scandals' of the Property Services Agency.

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Mrs Jennina Parry-Jones, of the Falconry Centre in Newent, Gloucestershire, with an African crowned eagle on her wrist and a martial eagle, both of which are being returned to the wild of their native Zimbabwe.

Jopling's EEC initiative

A proposal to take 7.5 million acres of cereal land in the EEC out of production to reduce the community's mountain of surplus grain will be made today by Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister for Agriculture.

Ulster link claim on Stalker

A Conservative MP claimed yesterday that new evidence of a "Northern Ireland connection" in the false allegations made against Mr John Stalker raised questions about how much confidence can be attached to the Sampson report on the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Thames river bus scheme is threatened

Lavish plans for a river bus service through the heart of London are in jeopardy, according to the Thames River Authority, which is spearheading the scheme.

MPs again try to end filibusters

Senior backbench MPs, who believe they were outraged by the Government's earlier attempt to end the filibustering in the House of Commons.

Churches quarrel

The House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church will be respected by the other branches of the Anglican Communion and all their bishops.

Publishers try to avert writers' ban

One of Britain's largest book publishers is negotiating with the Society of Authors to head off a threatened boycott by 3,500 writers about a dispute involving royalties.

No end of monkey business without bananas

Zacherie escaped from the home of his owner, Mrs Marjorie Bool, in North Westall, near Chippenham, and has since been defying all attempts to recapture him.

His efforts availed him naught so M4 motorists he warned.

£20 excess council car park fine proposed

A standard excess charge of £20 should be imposed on motorists who fail to "pay and display" at council car parks, the Audit Commission says.

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Survey resource fight

Professors 'faking'

Pill could improve athletes

By John...

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LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

Power-sharing pact rejected • Energy policy • Nuclear defence

Hattersley scoffs at idea of coalition with Alliance

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

Mr Roy Hattersley yesterday contemptuously rejected any possibility of the Labour Party entering into a coalition with the Alliance...

Deported priest calls for sanctions

The traditional church service launching Labour's conference week in Blackpool was marked by an appeal yesterday for sanctions against South Africa from a priest recently imprisoned and deported by the Pretoria Government.

In the congregation, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, nodded vigorous agreement throughout the sermon in which Catholic priest Father Theo Kneifel condemned the "illegitimate and unjust government in South Africa".

Mr Kinnock, who was accompanied by his wife Glensy, read a lesson from St Matthew on the "Last Judgement".

But the applause of the congregation at Blackpool's North Shore Methodist Church was reserved for German-born Father Kneifel, 44, arrested under the state of emergency at his seminary near Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, and imprisoned for five days before being deported.

He told the congregation: "Apartheid is like a boil. It cannot be reformed, it must be abolished."

Father Kneifel called for "progressive sanctions to isolate that government so that Christians realize that you cannot collaborate with apartheid."

He protested that the package of sanctions so far agreed by the European Economic Community was "a slap in the face for South Africa's suffering poor".

Mr Kinnock celebrated singing voice - as much at home with rugby songs as with hymns - was deployed with some gusto throughout the service.



Mr Tony Mulhearn (left) and Mr Derek Hatton, the Liverpool militants, at Blackpool for the opening of the Labour Party conference yesterday.

Kinnock rejects US nuclear cover

Continued from page 1

indeed would be pushing the US out of the UK."

Mr Kinnock said yesterday that if Mr Weinberger and Mr Perle were saying that the policy of a democratically elected Labour government with a mandate should be "subordinated by an external government" then they were undermining the very values Nato existed to defend.

He said that Mr Weinberger and Mr Perle were "wildly exaggerating" the effects of Britain becoming "yet another non-nuclear power within Nato".

Last night, a Conservative MP just back from a visit to Washington with a British parliamentary delegation claimed that Mr Weinberger's views were shared by the whole establishment.

Mr Kenneth Hind, MP for Lancashire West, and his Commons colleagues had top-level meetings with officials in the White House, State and Defence departments and leading Congressmen who all spoke out against Mr Kinnock's plans.

"The message from Washington is loud and clear. They do not want to enter into our domestic politics, but what they are saying in private is what Mr Weinberger is saying in public."

"What Mr Weinberger is saying is exactly what the White House said to the Conservative MPs on our delegation, what the State Department said and what the Home Affairs Committee of Congress said. I have never seen such strong uniformity on one single point."

Mr Hind said the Americans believed if a Labour government closed US

nuclear bases other European countries would follow, resulting in Washington withdrawing American troops from Europe.

MOSCOW: Pravda, the official Communist Party paper, yesterday praised the stance on the defence issue taken at the conferences of the British Liberal and Social Democratic parties (Christopher Walker writes).

The political debates at both forums centred on a joint report on defence and security, which had been prepared by the leaders of the two parties. As seen by them it should form the basis of the alliance's foreign policy platform at the forthcoming parliamentary elections.

Pravda's London correspondent, Arkady Mstislennikov, reported: "It should be said that the report contains quite a few sensible judgements. They reflect a shift in the thinking of politicians and broad public circles in Britain, which has been taking place under the impact of peace initiatives by the Soviet Union and in view of the growing nuclear threat."

"On the whole," the paper concluded, "the two conferences have shown once again that support for nuclear disarmament and for broader peaceful co-operation between East and West is mounting in the British Isles."

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EEC acts to break foreign beer ban

Munich's legendary Oktoberfest, in full, boozey roar since last Saturday (it always begins in September), may never be the same again if Brussels officials have their way.

The world's greatest beer-drinking festival has already jarred the hard men by offering this year, for the first time, thin non-alcoholic brews.

That move by the eight big Bavarian brewers whose huge beer pavilions cover Munich's Theresienwiese, (Theresa's Meadow) for two weeks every year, was "encouraged" by the city council to help reduce drink-drive and other usual Oktoberfest-related accidents.

But most of the one million hearties who drank 900,000 litres of beer at the weekend alone to give the festival another record opening (it is also always a record), and the total of more than seven million visitors expected by the time the taps are turned off, can accept that as a good thing, even if only for others.

What they are finding more difficult to swallow is the dreadful possibility that the non-German EEC commissioners in Brussels will have their dastardly way in forcing foreign "chemical" beers into West Germany, and as far south as Munich.

The Germans, who put away 145.3 litres of beer per head last year, keeping them at the top of the European countries league, drink pure beer by law.

This is the Reinheitsgebot (purity commandment), drawn up by Duke Wilhelm of Bavaria in 1516 which rules that only hops, malt, yeast and water are used. So far, the law has kept "adulterated" foreign beers containing preservatives and other chemicals out.

But that situation will come to a halt by the end of this year if the European Court in Luxembourg accepts the advice of a Briton, Sir Gordon Slynn, the court's attorney general. He said last week that West Germany's ban on imports of foreign beers violated the Treaty of Rome.

But Herr Ulrich Opherk, for the German Brewers' Federation in Bonn, admitted: "German beer drinkers are not suddenly going to switch to foreign brews containing chemicals."

British brewers keep quiet about ingredients

In Britain the Brewers Society claims that beer is made in compliance with the most stringent legal standards in the world, but there is no requirement for beers or lagers to carry lists of ingredients on their labels (Robin Young writes).

This may be good for the peace of mind of drinkers who might feel queasy if they knew they were drinking, among other things, colorants, antioxidants, preservatives and sweeteners in a liquid that may also have been treated with dried seaweed, extract of fish bladders, crushed shells of minute sea creatures, and topped up with a dollop of calcium sulphate, a little extra vitamin C, and a gassy blast of carbon dioxide.

There is only three British beers that would be acceptable at present in West Germany: Worthington White Shield, Guinness and a new Natural Lager launched recently by the Tadcaster brewers, Samuel Smith, which contains nothing but English malted barley, German hops, Bavarian culture yeast and water.

"We know such a process is more demanding and expensive than most alternative practices", Samuel Smith's said.

Firms get extortion warnings

By Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent

Warnings about extortion against companies have been given by Control Risks, an international security and risk assessment firm.

The latest caution to the 380 companies who subscribe to Control Risks' service comes after an increase in extortion in Japan.

Crimes such as blackmail, kidnapping and threats to poison companies' products are rising.

In the past six years Control Risks has had knowledge of 270 cases internationally, a quarter of them in Britain, and has helped companies in some of the more difficult ones.

Such incidents are now more prevalent, according to Mr Christopher Grose, a Control Risks official.

One multinational company alone has suffered five extortion incidents in two years.

Details of the threat posed to companies by extortion came last week at a joint seminar of the British Association and the Society of Chemical Industry, when Mr Grose said that cases that reach the public were only the "tip of the iceberg".

The managing director of a company making health products was faced with a threat to poison one of its main brand names unless £170,000 was paid.

A parcel delivered to the hotel where the director had been told to await further contact was found to contain a CB radio and instructions to board a certain train.

He was told that 30 minutes into the journey he would receive a radio message to throw the money out of the window. But the "drop" was not made.

In another case Control Risks' clients had been told money would be collected underwater by a frogman in a harbour.

Law-abiding Bath

By Robin Young

A quiet night in the West's sin city

By Robin Young

Is Bath the sin city of the West? Can one walk its streets in safety?

When Dr Graham Davis, a lecturer in social history at Bath College, disclosed that in the eighteenth century Bath had been overflowing with brothels, gambling and crimes of violence, a Mr Pearce wrote in The Times to complain that things were little changed today.

Mr Pearce said that while walking within yards of their hotel in Queen Square, his family had been surrounded by drunken youths hurling abuse and pushing them off the pavement.

In the city centre, he claimed, gangs of youths blocked the thoroughfares behaving in a frightening manner. Formidable bouncers guarded the discos, but there

was not a policeman in sight and the city seemed to have surrendered to the "toughs".

On Saturday afternoon, the city looked rather different. Jugglers performed with burning torches outside the Pump Rooms, people were feeding the pigeons and the only noise came from a traffic jam in Quiet Street. Early that evening, the only people in Queen Square were American tourists quietly enjoying pre-prandial strolls.

A receptionist at the Francis Hotel in Queen Square was quite enraged at the suggestion that there might be rowdiness round the corner. "We never have the slightest trouble here," she said. "I walk home alone after 11 every night and I have never felt the slightest bit nervous."

The largest group of people visible were queuing patiently to see Sir John Mills in the National Theatre production of The Passion at the Bijou Theatre Royal.

Outside Mole's and Nero's, the discotheques in George Street, the bouncers were polite and friendly. At Chemies nightclub, youngsters were enjoying themselves but none seemed to be misbehaving. At the end of the night the police, who had had four officers on duty in the city centre, said there had been no incidents.

Perhaps the whole thing was simply got up to put another plug in for Bath, or perhaps the terrified visitor, who came from the rival tourist attraction of Harrogate in Yorkshire, was trying to give his own home town a boost.

Cash fact fight as demand

Soft drink gas could save lives

New light on volcanic

Science report

Acid rain: 1

Cash factor influences fight as politicians demand quick answers

Scientists know enough about acid rain to persuade the Government to spend £600 million on curbing its export from Britain. But as Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent, reports in the first of four articles, many of its secrets have still to be unlocked.

There are only three new things about acid rain. One is its name, another its emergence on to the political stage and the third the amount of research being devoted to it. Acid rain has been created for as long as coal and oil have been burnt in large amounts to make things move and to keep people warm.

Acid rain would have dominated environmental politics this year, but for the Chernobyl disaster in the Soviet Union. Politicians want fast answers to the questions that acid rain poses. But the harder the scientists dig into it, the more they realize that there are no simple solutions.

Dr John Bowman, secretary of the Natural Environment Research Council, said: "Cutting emissions by a certain amount will not necessarily have an equivalent effect when it comes to water or vegetation. The relationship is not necessarily a linear one." He meant that halving what

goes up will not necessarily halve what comes down. Dr Michael Unsworth, head of a Scottish research unit of the Natural Environment Research Council, called it "very

Sulphur dioxide, the gas at the centre of the acid rain argument, is produced naturally from volcanoes and from rotting vegetable matter in swamps and even on compost heaps. Burning of coal and oil has almost doubled the amount of the gas in the atmosphere over Britain.

complicated and exciting atmospheric chemistry".

The acid rain process begins when things are burnt on the ground, especially if the things are naturally occurring fuels such as coal, oil and wood. The burning gives off gases which drift skywards.

Once there they can react with the moisture trapped in the clouds. The descent of the water leads to what many environmental campaigners

see as the menacing patter of acid rain. Clearly it cannot be new. It must have been produced when steam trains snorted across the countryside and housemaids lit fires in bedrooms.

Historic buildings have suffered for years from the cruel weathering that strips noses and beards from statues.

The Parthenon in Athens is thought to have suffered more from pollution in the past 30 years than it did in the previous 2,000.

Nobody doubts that the production of acid rain can be curbed. But questions about the speed and extent of the necessary controls are dominated by their immense cost and by doubts about their value.

There is no point in spending millions to stop the damage supposedly caused by acid rain if later research shows it to be caused by something else.

Tomorrow: Leaks, lupins and clover



Miss Rebecca Bruce, aged 20 (left), Miss Frances Cripwell, aged 27 (centre), and Miss Franwyn Jacka, aged 26, got a taste of the desert at Bewdley Safari Park, Hereford and Worcester, at the weekend before setting off on a 1,000-mile sponsored camel trek across the central Sahara. Miss Cripwell was awarded a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship to lead the expedition, which will raise money for a Wilderness Trust retreat centre in Shropshire.

MP seeks Aids check on visitors

A former Conservative health minister warned the Government, yesterday, of "horrendous prospects" unless immediate screening for Aids is introduced for all visitors to Britain from high risk areas, particularly certain African countries. Sir Gerard Vaughan, Conservative MP for Reading East, an eminent physician, and chairman of the trustees

of the United Kingdom Aids Foundation, said: "We are crazy not to do so." "The Government must take the simple and obvious steps to protect its people and that means screening everybody coming here, for a start, from Tanzania, Zambia and Uganda. "And to suggest that those like me, who cry out for action, are alarmists borders

on the criminal." Sir Gerard has written to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, demanding urgent action and stating: "We have to stop this terrible, incurable disease spreading in any way we can. We owe it to many innocent people, including children. "If there was an outbreak of cholera and typhoid there would be no hesitation."

Change in mental handicap care urged

By Jill Sherman

Community services can inhibit community life, according to a report out today, which calls for a radical reappraisal of mental handicap care services.

The report, from the Campaign for People with Mental Handicaps, is based on a study carried out in the United States.

It gives a warning that planners often fall into the trap of thinking that mentally handicapped people need the constant support of special services.

Its author, Alison Wertheimer, the campaign director, says planners should stop putting up special buildings which segregate the mentally handicapped from community life.

Planners should be aware that sometimes people in the community were more useful than services to those with mental handicaps.

The report says: "Much thinking and planning about how best to meet the needs of people with mental handicaps is dominated by discussions about services and somewhere along the line the people themselves can easily get lost."

Images of possibility (CMH publications, 5 Kennings Court, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, E1.7S).

Soft drink gas could save lives

By a Staff Reporter

A gas cylinder normally used to put the fizz into soft drinks could save the lives of miners, industrial workers and lone yachtsmen.

A cylinder of oxygen fitted to a new lightweight breathing bag could provide a 30-minute supply of air to victims of smoke, fumes or poisonous gas. That could just be enough to get them to fresh air and safety.

In the case of mining and industrial accidents, which often involve air poisoning, the best precaution is to provide every man with his own breathing apparatus. Conventional equipment, however, resembles that used by skin divers. It is too heavy, cumbersome and expensive.

Soft drinks cylinders, however, weigh barely a pound as they are stamped out of a single thin disc of metal. They are extremely strong, safe and leak proof, ideal portable equipment breathing apparatus down mines.

In an emergency, a miner pulls a mouthpiece from a safety box at his side and that activates the oxygen bottle and inflates a plastic bag. As he breathes, poisonous carbon dioxide is extracted to keep the air sweet in the bag until the oxygen cylinder gives out.

Two companies are developing the bags, and one, the Draeger Safety Group, of Blyth, Northumberland, will start production in the next few months.

Another fresh application for the cylinder is in a compact, self-inflating liferaft now in production by Sea Sure Safety and Survival, of Aldershot. Self-inflating rafts are usually large, heavy and expensive.

The Jon Buoy, however, is so compact and lightweight that it can be carried by the smallest yacht and it not only provides support for the victim, it also insulates him against the cold. The victim can even be winched up by a special lifting ring if he is too weak to move when rescued.

Police sue over car accident

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

The West Midlands branch of the Police Federation is bringing a legal action against the West Midlands Police Authority because of an accident in an Austin Metro car in which one of its members was injured.

There has been concern about a number of accidents involving Metros which were suspected of having been caused by petrol spilling on the road leading to the driver losing control of the vehicle.

In June the Northumbrian police drew the attention of the Department of Transport to six accidents involving civilians where it appeared that petrol had spilled from a newly filled tank as the car drove on a fast left-hand bend.

A spokesman for the West Midlands branch of the federation said it was making a claim after an accident in August last year in which a police sergeant based at Solihull was injured when he appeared to lose control of a Metro.

Another source said there were about five police cases of a similar nature pending, and he was aware of others involving civilians.

The Department of Transport said its engineers had examined the Metro and had been unable to induce any spillage where the cap on the petrol tank was properly fitted. Where they had deliberately induced spillage, that had not caused any problem.

The Royal Automobile Club and the Automobile Association said they had no knowledge of any legal actions based on accidents which might have been caused by petrol spillage from the Metro. The RAC also said it was examining the Metro.

A spokesman for Austin Rover said that with the filler cap properly fitted there was no possibility of spillage. Problems only seemed to arise where a non-standard cap was used.

Science report

New light on eruption of volcanic islands

By Keith Hindley

An Israeli geophysicist, working in the United States, has suggested a theory that may explain the pattern of secondary activity in volcanic islands.

The long chain of Hawaiian islands is a set of five, mile-high volcanoes that have risen, one after the other, from the Pacific sea floor.

They all erupt once, pause and then erupt again in turn — a true natural assembly line.

The general explanation for these periodic outpourings is that the sea floor there is moving slowly north-westwards over a hot spot, an intense source of heat from deep within the earth's mantle.

As molten rock builds up above the hot spot, the sea floor is breached and a new volcano begins to build towards the surface of the sea.

Eventually, the cone matures into an island and passes the danger zone. It goes cold and begins to weather away.

So much is widely accepted. But why is it, after three-quarters of a million years of extinction and after moving 115 miles from the original source of magma, each volcano suddenly begins erupting again? The new phase is less violent than the first and

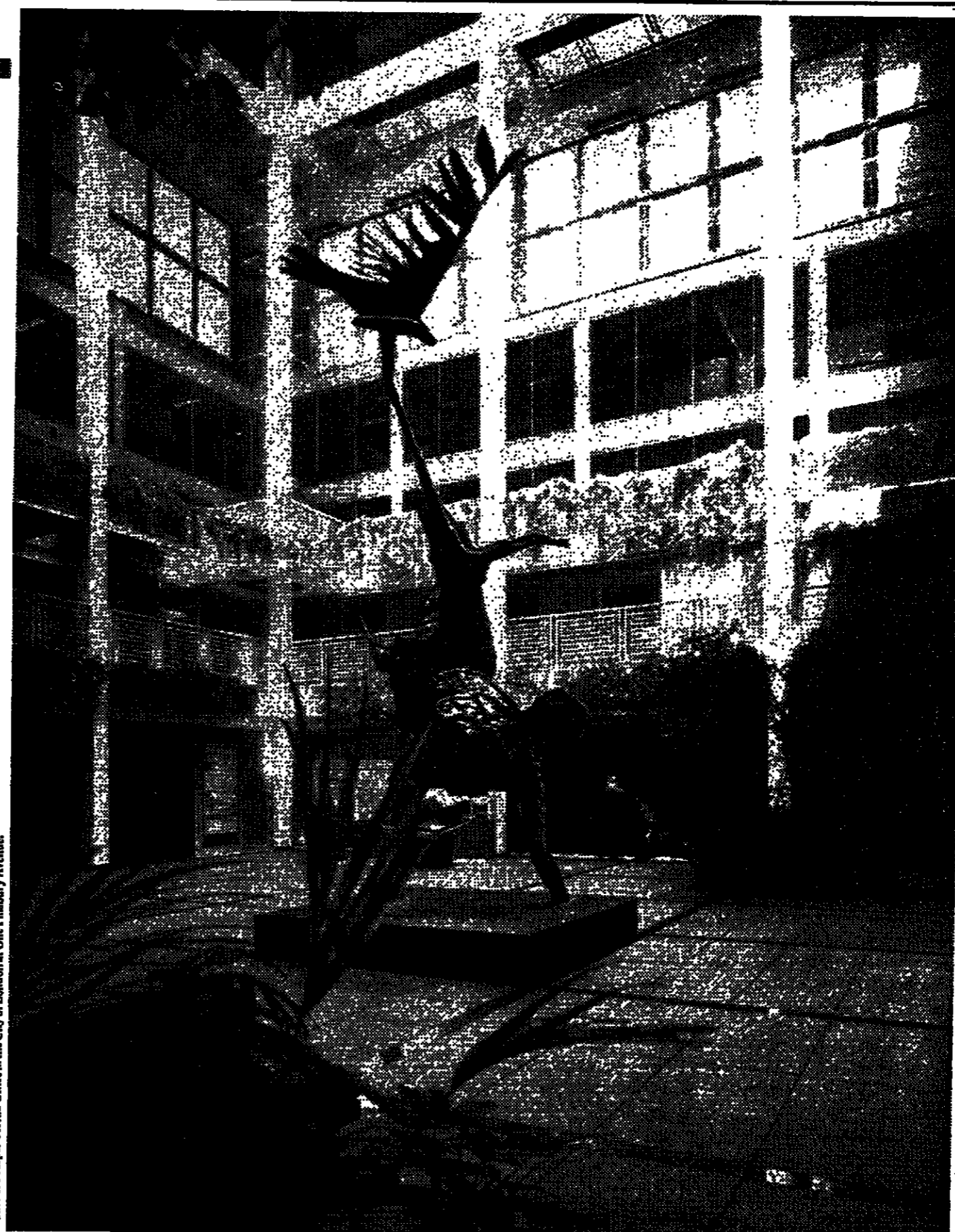
occurs near the base of the original volcanic cone.

The mystery may have been solved at last by the geophysicist, Uri Siten Brink, of the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory in Palisades, New York. At a recent meeting of the American Geophysical Union in Baltimore he described seismic studies that showed a vast raft of horizontal lava beds beneath the line of volcanoes, starting where the violent primary activity begins to quiet.

His theory is that magma actually flows for longer but remains trapped.

When a volcano forms, as lava begins to flow, it rapidly gains weight that is spread widely over the ocean plate below. Eventually it becomes heavy enough to stop the flow — like a thumb on a fizzy lemonade bottle — forcing the magma to flow outwards forming beds, or sills, up to 2½ miles thick and 120 miles across.

If this notion is correct then much larger quantities of lava must be produced than anyone has so far imagined and the hot spot itself must be much bigger, perhaps 180 miles long by 120 miles across.



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Moscow ends secrecy and opens nuclear test site to journalists

This weekend the Soviet Defence and Foreign Ministries organized a press visit to the Soviet Union's formerly top-secret main nuclear test site in Central Asia...

Rusted iron doors of two tunnels that were told had not yet been used for testing. We were led about 100 yards into one tunnel...

In an unprecedented break with secrecy, the Soviet Union this weekend opened parts of its main nuclear test site in barren Central Asian granite hills for its first known inspection by foreigners.

The length of the tunnel depends on the strength of the ground. Fifty-three settlements have been built to house evacuees from the Chernobyl nuclear disaster...

temporary," the aide said. "To lay out modern roads would raise costs even further, and once the tests are over they would ever live out here, although it's practically radiation-free."

Similar stations are to be established around the Nevada testing grounds, but the Soviet scientists due to take part have not yet received their US visas...



Mrs Reagan, flanked by the President and Mr Weinberger, at the dedication of National Security Agency buildings.

Greens set terms for an alliance

West Germany's environmentalist Greens will offer talks on co-operation with the Social Democratic Party (SPD) if the federal election in January gives both parties a combined majority over the Government coalition...

US shrugs off Labour fury over Weinberger warning

US officials are well aware of the delicacy of speaking out with elections in Britain not far off, a Labour Party victory that put the party's current defence policies into action could jeopardize the entire Atlantic Alliance...

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington - In recent months there has been a sudden realization that with elections in Britain not far off...

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Violent start to Basque campaign

Thousands flocked to a rally called by the ruling Basque Nationalist Party here yesterday marking the unofficial launch of the election campaign in Spain's troubled Basque country.

Walesa talks on amnesty

Warsaw (AP) - The Solidarity leader, Mr Lech Walesa, speaking to hundreds of cheering supporters celebrating his birthday after a Roman Catholic mass in Gdansk...

Tax reforms on course

Washington - The last hurdle to tax reform in America has been cleared, with the Senate giving final and overwhelming approval to the most thorough-going reform...

Rally bomb

Dhaka - More than 50 people were wounded when a bomb exploded at an anti-government rally as Sheikh Hasina Wazed, the opposition leader, was addressing thousands of supporters.

Drugs ring

Harare (AP) - Zimbabwe police say they have uncovered a smuggling ring that intended shipping 44 lbs of marijuana to Britain sealed in metal stoves.

Mine blast

Colombo (AP) - Three Sri Lankan soldiers were killed when a landmine they were trying to defuse exploded in the troubled northern region of the country.

Mobutu visit

Lomé (AFP) - President Mobutu of Zaire arrived in Lomé on a visit aimed at showing support for President Eyadema after last week's coup attempt.

Death fall

Kathmandu (AFP) - A French climber, M. Benoit Grison, aged 23, plunged 660ft to his death on Mount Annapurna.

1,200 killed

Tehran (Reuters) - About 1,200 Iranian Muslims have been killed in six years of war against Iraq, a war publicly official said.

Libya pledge

Nicosia (AP) - Major Abdoul Salam Jalloff, deputy to the Libyan leader, Colonel Gaddafi, has pledged Libya's unlimited support for African revolutionary movements.

New mayors

Jerusalem (Reuters) - Israel has appointed Palestinian mayors in three West Bank towns currently governed by Israeli Army officers.

Party planned

Taipei (AP) - A group of dissidents are to form a new political party, the Democratic Progress Party, to push for direct trade, tourism and mail links with China.

Bird deaths

Madrid - The illegal use of insecticides in and near Europe's biggest wildlife preserve, the Coto Donana, is the probable cause of the recent deaths of about 25,000 aquatic birds, and more are dying, the independent Madrid daily El Pais reported.

Hanoi waste

Hanoi (AFP) - Low returns on investment, poor quality goods and continuing corruption have led to massive waste of Vietnam's scarce financial resources, according to reports in the official press here.

Airport hit

Jakarta (AFP) - A power blackout halted all air traffic for five hours at Jakarta's new international airport.

SLA... of border

Shamir's... Hitehcock's cut scene rediscovered

Mending Nicaraguan fences Ortega meets the Cardinal

Two days ago, as President Ortega and the leader of Nicaragua's Catholic Church, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, met to talk about patching up their serious differences, a few dozen worshippers were filling into a little wooden church on the outskirts of Managua...

refusal to criticize the Contras and their sponsor, the Reagan Administration, from the pulpit, the Sandinista authorities first retaliated with bitter personal attacks on Cardinal Obando y Bravo - "the Contra Cardinal" is what the Government newspaper frequently called him.

commandantes that it was time to back away from further confrontation, if only for the time being.

His mother stared hard at a photograph of him as a boy, apparently determined not to weep. When the short service was over, she was helped gently away to the family home in the nearby working-class suburb of Villa Venezuela.

Widespread criticism of the campaign against the Church outside Nicaragua (together with much hostile comment abroad about the closure of the only opposition newspaper, La Prensa) may have convinced Escobar Ortega and his fellow

As we trudged off through the downpour, the priest removed his robes and picked up his toolbox to get on with replacing a broken shutter.



President Daniel Ortega, of Nicaragua, after talks with Cardinal Obando y Bravo on patching up differences.

House ready to vote on sanctions veto

The House of Representatives is expected to vote today on whether to override the presidential veto on a Bill imposing economic sanctions against South Africa.

Reagan faces cool welcome on prairies

When President Reagan arrives here today, he will get a cool welcome from a community devastated by his administration's policies. Outside the hall where he will speak, protesting farmers will mount a noisy rally.

Kremlin sacks merchant marine chief

The Soviet Merchant Marine Minister has been sacked by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet less than a month after the Black Sea disaster in which nearly 400 people lost their lives when a Soviet liner sank after being rammed by a cargo ship.

Brewery funds sponsor Pope's Australia tour

Sydney (Reuters) - A big Australian brewery said yesterday it would be a major sponsor of the Pope's working tour of Australia beginning on November 24.

Libya pledge

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30 killed in fresh Beirut clashes

Beirut (Reuter) — Fresh fighting was reported on Beirut's "Green Line" battlefront yesterday after a clash between rival forces in Christian east Beirut on Saturday in which at least 30 people were killed.

The Christian Voice of Lebanon radio said unidentified gunmen launched an assault from mainly-Muslim west Beirut under cover of artillery fire but were repulsed by soldiers manning the sectarian divide.

Official confirmation was not immediately available and there were no reports of casualties in the latest fighting.

"Ambulances are there and we heard on our walkie-talkies there was trouble," one militiaman at a roadblock said.

The radio said gunmen tried to penetrate the no-man's land strip at about 1 pm after shells had hit the Christian districts of Masurieh, Mukales and Beit Mery.

Residents said earlier that a dozen shells had slammed into another Christian suburb, Ashrafieh, a key hilltop objective in the battle between Christian forces.

A Christian Lebanese forces militia spokesman said that at least 30 people, including civilians, had been killed and many more wounded in Saturday's fighting which had involved tanks, recoilless rifles and rocket-propelled grenades.

Streets littered with rubble and burned-out cars were deserted yesterday and militiamen manned check-



Three fighters from the forces of Samir Geagea protecting their office in the Beirut Christian quarter of Karantina.

points thrown up around the battle zone.

The spokesman said the Lebanese Forces chief, Mr Samir Geagea, was firmly in control despite what he said was a rebel Christian plot to take over the area with help from the left and from Muslims.

The rebels had thrust across the Green Line from Muslim west Beirut. Ashrafieh was some 1,000 yards from the divide and the rebels had tried to seize a radio station, he said.

Beirut since a bloody upheaval in the Lebanese Forces eight months ago and the first serious flare-up since Christian and Muslim ministers met early this month to agree on a truce between the warring militias.

Meanwhile, Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon, Brigadier Ghazi Kanaan, de-

nied a Lebanese Forces charge that he had directed an onslaught on east Beirut from the west.

He told the independent *An-Nahar* that the battle between supporters of Geagea and rebels led by the militia's previous commander, Mr Elie Hobeika, was "an internal affair".

Mafia in Italian medicines scandal

From Peter Nichols Rome

A massive scandal involving Mafia and Camorra activities in the Italian national health service has been revealed by Signor Carlo Donat-Cattin, the new Minister of Health.

He said in Turin on Saturday that inquiries, which were still proceeding, had revealed large scale fraud in three southern regions.

Preliminary figures indicated that in Campania, where the Camorra dominates organized crime, the health service was defrauded last year of about 50,000 million lire (€45 million). In the first three months of this year almost half that sum had already been reached.

In Sicily, the home ground of the Mafia, the health service had probably been defrauded of about 100,000 million lire over the past three years, almost half of it in 1985.

The Minister gave no figures for Calabria, which has grave problems of organized crime similar to the Mafia, but it is understood that the figure is less than that for Sicily.

Investigators discovered substantial differences between the value of sales of medicines declared by pharmaceutical companies and the amounts stated to have been spent by local authorities.

Brussels reviews emergency rules on radiation levels

From Richard Owen, Brussels

As the Russians prepare to restart the Chernobyl nuclear plant, the EEC is this week reconsidering the strict emergency regulations on radiation levels in foodstuffs which it imposed after the accident.

The provisional EEC agreement on radiation levels expires tomorrow and nuclear experts from the Twelve meet today in an attempt to reach a last-minute accord on whether the emergency regulations should be extended or replaced with less strict criteria.

Countries which rely heavily on nuclear power for their electricity supplies, such as France, argued at an unsuccessful meeting of experts on Friday that the rules imposed by the EEC in May were alarmist and can now be relaxed. This view is to some extent reinforced by Soviet assurances over the effectiveness of measures taken at the Chernobyl plant since April.

Other member states, however, take a far more sceptical view of nuclear safety and argue that the radiation levels agreed by the EEC were a necessary response to public alarm and should be maintained at least until next year.

At the time of the accident the EEC prohibited food imports into the EEC from Eastern Europe and established norms for maximum permissible radiation levels in foodstuffs. Some EEC states, however, protested that the measures were being used to impede trade in fruit and vegetables between EEC states rather than EEC trade with the Soviet bloc.

A possible compromise formula has been put forward by Euratom, the EEC's atomic agency. It has suggested that the present post-Chernobyl system of detailed radiations levels for specific foodstuffs could be replaced with annual monitoring based on agreed criteria for safe radiation levels for human consumption.

Some national groups came out against the use of nuclear energy, but at the international level the Fund managed to stay outside the debate.

The Duke complained that the Italian press was attaching too much significance to the nuclear energy debate when the conference had other important issues to discuss.

Wildlife group agrees to differ

Rome — The 25th anniversary conference of the World Wildlife Fund, chaired by the Duke of Edinburgh, has ended in Assisi with an agreement to differ on the problem of nuclear energy (Peter Nichols writes).

Some national groups came out against the use of nuclear energy, but at the international level the Fund managed to stay outside the debate.

SLA chief certain of border security

From Ian Murray, Metulla, Upper Galilee

General Antoine Lahad yesterday reassured the world that the South Lebanon Army (SLA) he commands, with full-scale Israeli support, was capable of maintaining security in the buffer zone along the border indefinitely, despite the growing number of attacks by the Hezbollah fundamentalist militia.

While he was holding his news conference here two more French soldiers serving with the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil) were injured by a roadside bomb in south Lebanon, giving apparent substance to his claim that the UN force was now being drawn into the violence of the region as nothing more than another armed unit.

General Lahad denied stories that have appeared in the Israeli press that four of his positions had been overrun by the Shia militia in the past month. Parts of some positions had been captured, he admitted, but all had been retaken.

Not only were his men capable of holding all their present outposts, but he was considering increasing the number of manned positions protecting the SLA zone.

"Despite some heavy casualties suffered by my men, militarily speaking the opera-

tions against us were not successful," he said. He would not reveal how large the SLA was beyond saying confidently: "It is big enough to repulse all attacks."

Although he relied on Israel for support — just as the Hezbollah and Amal militias relied on Syria and Iran — he said he had not needed any help from Israeli forces to repel the attacks against his positions.

As far as last week's United Nations Security Council resolution was concerned, which called for Israeli and SLA withdrawal from the zone, the General was quietly dismissive.

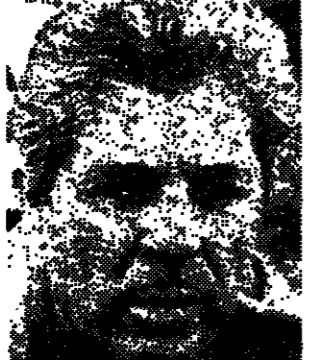
The UN troops were not a fighting force, he said, and if they were deployed up to the border they would be unable to prevent infiltration into Israel.

The attacks against UN soldiers were being directed by Syria and Iran, he said, and had nothing to do with the SLA or Israel. If the UN troops were deployed along the border this would move the fighting closer to Israel.

But he did not want to see the UN pull its troops out simply because they were under terrorist attack. This would give a victory to terrorism and win popular support for it in south Lebanon, he said. If the UN wanted to pull its troops out this would have to be for political and not terrorist considerations.

He admitted that attacks against his men had been growing, with the militia opposing them armed with more sophisticated weapons in the hands of determined and fanatical men.

For his own part, although he needed Israeli help, he remained a loyal Lebanese citizen, he said. Just as De Gaulle worked with British support for France in the last war, so he was working with Israeli support for Lebanon.



General Lahad: claims he can repulse all attacks.

Shamir's way to peace

Cairo, (Reuter) — The Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, soon to be Prime Minister, said in a rare interview with an Egyptian paper that he did not believe an international peace conference was the best way to solve the Middle East crisis.

He said in the interview, conducted in New York by the semi-official *al-Ahram* newspaper and appearing in yesterday's editions, that he believed bilateral talks were the only way.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, with whom Mr Shamir swaps position under a power-sharing agreement next month, and President Mubarak of Egypt, agreed in principle at a summit this month to set up a committee to prepare for an international conference.

Mr Philippe Monfils, Minister for Belgium's French-speaking community, said the funds available to Brussels' acclaimed art museums for the purchase of works of art were "miserable", and a large part of the Magritte heritage could leave Belgium.

Despite its rich artistic history, Belgium has produced relatively few leading figures in the 20th century arts, and the French-speaking and Flemish communities have set up Magritte funds, with the support of Mr Mark Eyskens, the Finance Minister.

Magritte died in Brussels nearly 20 years ago, aged 69. His widow, Madame Georgette Berger, survived him until February this year.

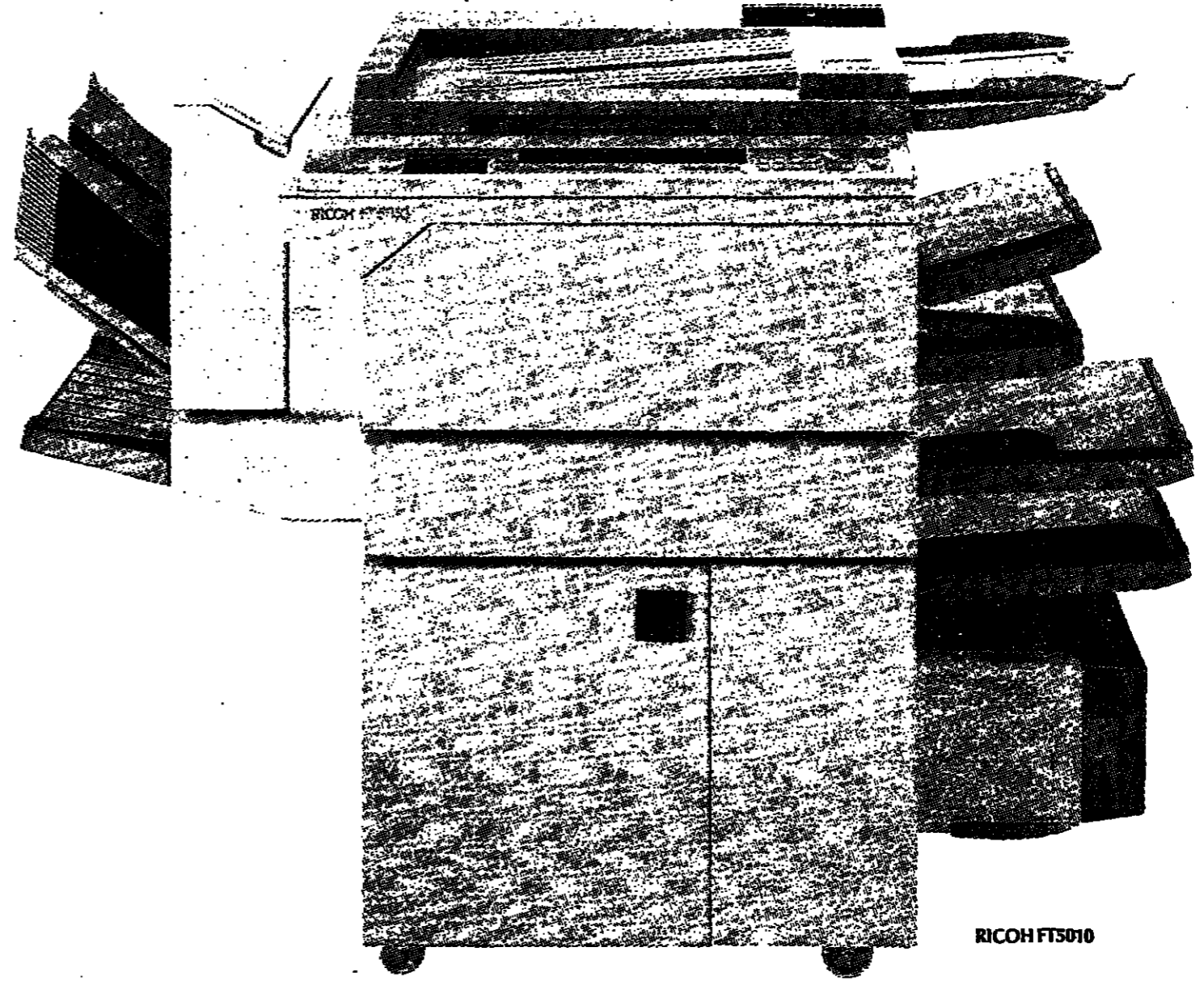
Hitchcock's cut scene rediscovered

Los Angeles — Some fascinating home movies showing Alfred Hitchcock playing with his young daughter in the days when he lived in England in the 1930s, plus the key scene of his 1959 picture *Topaz* that was cut from the film, have been unearthed in a garage at the director's home (Ivor Davis writes).

Mr Richard Franklin, a Melbourne film director and a student of Hitchcock films, who made the first sequel to *Psycho*, came across the rare home movies and the crucial scene while sifting through boxes of papers and personal belongings of the director who died in 1980. The films had been sent to the garage when Hitchcock's film office at Universal Studios closed.

"The home movies show a side of the director that his various biographers claim never existed," Mr Franklin noted. But he said his greatest find was the scene from *Topaz*, one of the director's least successful films.

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Dengists win a new code of behaviour for China's billion

From Robert Grievess, Peking

The Chinese Communist Party yesterday announced the adoption of a new code of behaviour for China's one billion citizens at the conclusion of its annual plenary session.

The official Radio Peking announced that the 210-member Central Committee of the party, which met during the past few days in Peking's Great Hall of the People, had passed a resolution on "the guiding principles of the construction of socialist spiritual civilization".

The new code of behaviour China is to abandon a programme to simplify more than 850 written characters, because of confusion surrounding their use (AFP reports from Peking). The decision will not affect a further 2,400 characters simplified in 1964.

is an attempt by Dengists to replace Maoist ideology with principles based on a market-oriented economy, according to Western diplomats.

That attempt was expected to meet stiff resistance from conservatives within the party. A new code of behaviour and ethics has been viewed by some observers here as the vitally needed ideological consolidation of the Dengist reforms. It could also help rebuild the party's prestige, which has been battered by abuses of power and economic crimes associated with the open door policy.

"Since 1979, when China began its economic reform and opening to the outside world, people's ideological concepts have changed," the official party newspaper, *People's Daily*, said.

Free press: Chinese officials are drafting laws that will ensure press freedom with "socialist characteristics" in the People's Republic.

Mr Sun Yuepi, the deputy director of the Institute of Journalism under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said at the weekend that drafting of the laws, begun about two years ago, was progressing well.

After undergoing extensive review, the laws are expected to be submitted to the National People's Congress, China's Parliament, for final approval in 1988.

The concept of press freedom in China would have been unthinkable five years ago. But in the current period of cultural liberalization, which has witnessed a flowering of the Chinese cinema, arts and letters, the move to codify the rights and responsibilities of Chinese journalists has met with widespread approval.

"The situation now is much better than before, but I believe the press can be even more open."

But the concept of press freedom in China is not the same as that in the West. Recently, a deputy minister in the Government's Propaganda Department said that newspaper editors, rather than the Communist Party, should have the final say, so that they can make "better propaganda".



General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, left, waving to well-wishers on his arrival at Peking airport yesterday, where he was greeted by the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, right.

General Jaruzelski's official visit could herald closer relations between China and the Soviet Union's East European allies (Robert Grievess writes).

He is the first East European leader, with the exception of President Ceausescu of Romania, to visit China since Peking and Moscow split over ideological and foreign policy differences in the early 1960s, and is the first Polish leader to visit China since 1959.

He had talks with Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Premier, and is expected to be in Peking for three days, after having visited Mongolia and North Korea.

The visit was hastily arranged to take place before an official visit to China next month by Mr Erich Honecker, the East German leader.

The Chinese Communist Party has formal ties with its counterparts in Romania and Yugoslavia.

In recent years economic and political contacts have been resumed between China and Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria — contacts that reportedly have Moscow's tacit approval.

Pakistan toughens up security at airports

Karachi (AFP) — Pakistan has initiated tough measures to tighten security at chief airports after the hijacking of a Pan Am jumbo jet on September 5, official sources said yesterday.

X-ray machines are being installed here and at Islamabad airports to check baggage, and more highly trained security personnel have been brought in.

Twenty-two people died and scores were wounded when four Arab hijackers opened fire on the passengers.

Since the hijacking, senior officials of the Interior Ministry and the Civil Aviation Department have been holding regular security meetings.

The airport perimeter here, cleared of undergrowth, has been fenced with barbed wire and is being patrolled by armed squads. Eighteen watchtowers have been erected and equipped with searchlights.

Britain answers Haiti's request for food aid

By Nicholas Beeston

The initial consignment of a £250,000 British food package will arrive in Haiti on Saturday in one of the first responses to the country's call for aid since the overthrow of President Jean-Claude Duvalier in February.

The food relief, comprising vegetable oil from Singapore, kidney beans from Canada and maize from the United States, is expected to feed 20,000 people in the next year.

The package, paid for by the British Government after an appeal from Haiti two months ago, was organized by British Care, part of an international relief agency based in Paris.

British Care said that Haiti was one of the five poorest nations in the world and that its 3.6 million people, who earn an average of less than \$200 (£136) a year, were in desperate need of more food.

Billy Graham in France

Evangelist changes mockery to respect

From Diana Geddes, Paris

When Billy Graham asked the religious editor of *Le Monde* what he would do if he were going on a Protestant evangelistic crusade to Catholic France, the journalist replied: "I would turn right round and go back home. It's a hopeless task."

On Saturday night, the last of Billy Graham's eight-day mission in France, 18,500 people flocked to the newly-built Bercy sports stadium in Paris to hear the American evangelist preach. Two thousand watched on a video screen in an overflow room in the stadium and one thousand more had to be turned away.

In all, more than 100,000 came to Bercy to see Billy Graham in person, while another 300,000 watched him on enormous screens in 33 other towns.

Seven per cent "came forward" to take Jesus into their hearts and restart their lives — almost twice as many as in normal missions in the United States.

By all accounts, this latest crusade to France — the first for 23 years — has been a success. Yet the augurs were by no means good. A Gallup poll taken just before Billy Graham arrived showed that only 15 per cent of the population had heard of him.

The French press was extremely sceptical before the crusade began. It condemned the 7 million francs (£700,000) cost of the mission and spoke with horror of expecting to see a slick, Bible-thumping, southern preacher, propped up by stant salvation, propped up by stant salvation, propped up by stant salvation, screaming razzmatazz, screaming loudspeakers, and massed choirs, all helping to hypnotize the crowds to a fervour which had little to do with religion.

But as the week progressed and the journalists had a chance to see how the predominantly poor and ill-educated audience was being moved not by the razzmatazz, which was not much in evidence, but by Billy Graham's simplicity and sincerity, the mocking tone became gentler and mixed with a certain respect and admiration.

"It's real Sunday School stuff, isn't it?" a Protestant pastor from Le Havre said with a smile. "I'd never be able to touch a lot of these people here, yet he does."

Mr Bob Evans, former head of the Greater Europe Bible Mission who has lived in France for the past 40 years, commented: "There's a surprise to us all. There's such heavy secularism in France; it's not fashionable to be religious here. But Billy Graham has obviously struck a vein of gold somewhere. He's shown that underneath it all people are longing for something else."

Ceausescu pushes for new capital

Rebels put terms for a ceasefire

From Dessa Trevisan, Belgrade

Romania may soon have a new capital. President Ceausescu has announced that it is intended to move the capital from Bucharest to Tirgoviste, the medieval capital of the Wallachian state, some 50 miles north-west of the present capital.

The final decision, President Ceausescu said, has to be taken by the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party but there seems no doubt that the President is intent on carrying out his long cherished plan to move the capital to the medieval centre of the state and culture.

The town now has a population of some 90,000 but 300 years ago it was the capital of Wallachia.

It was also the seat of the Duke Mircea the Great, whose anniversary was celebrated in Romania with a hitherto unmatched pomp.

Obviously Mr Ceausescu wishes to establish the continuity of the Romanian state from the Middle Ages to the present.

In a speech to mark the anniversary of the Duke's installation as ruler of Wallachia, President Ceausescu told the people of Tirgoviste that if they worked hard their demand to move the capital to their city would be crowned with success.

According to reports from Romania, an international airport is already being built there and preparations are being made to build a railway line connecting the city with the present capital.

President Ceausescu said the complete modernization of the small medieval town would be carried out in the course of the next three or four years.

Philippine rebels in the Philippines are to propose a temporary nationwide ceasefire of 30 days or longer but with rigid safeguards, including committees to monitor the agreement.

A statement signed by the two negotiators of the left-wing National Democratic Front (NDF), Mr Satur Ocampo and Mr Antonio Umali, rejected as "dangerous" the Government's unconditional ceasefire offer.

Instead they proposed the immediate formation of a national committee "to monitor and supervise the ceasefire and to arbitrate all disputes that may arise from any violation."

Similar committees on a regional and provincial level comprised of people "mutually accepted for probity, impartiality and personal integrity" would ensure both sides strictly observed the ceasefire terms, they said.

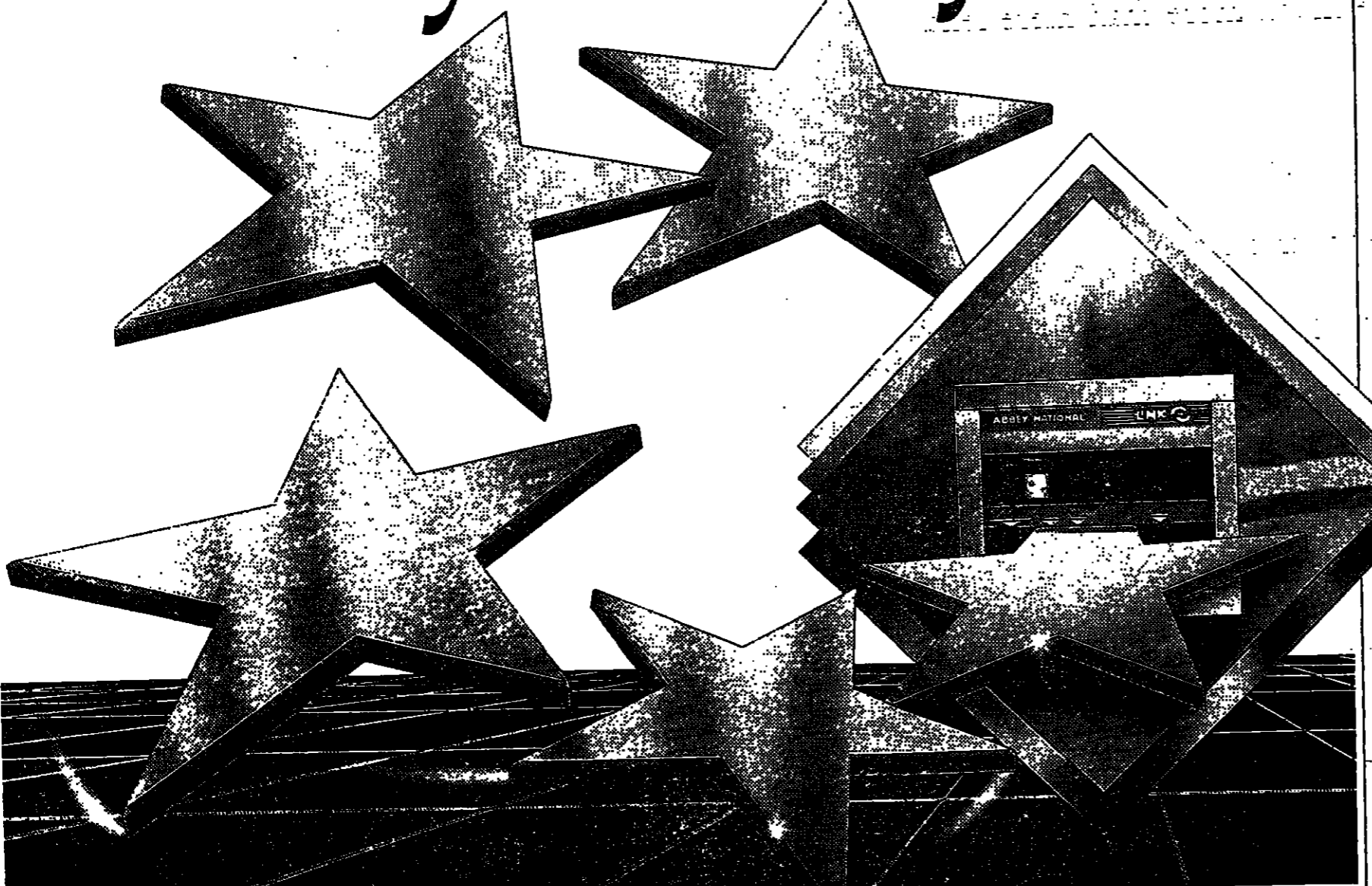
The plan was a "positive" development, the Executive Secretary, Mr Joker Arroyo said. "A ceasefire is always welcome. Anything that saves lives is welcome."

ZAMBOANGA: Muslim militants who kidnapped a Swiss tourist, Mr Hans Kunzli, and are believed to be holding him on Jolo island, 600 miles south of Manila, have hardened their demands two days before a military-imposed deadline for his release, the Philippine military said yesterday (AP reports).

The military said the prospects that the hostage would be released soon dimmed because the militants had reverted to their original demand for a ransom of \$100,000 (£70,430).

Mr Kunzli, in letter, asked for the ransom to be paid.

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World Bridge

British women third behind US winners

From A Bridge Correspondent, Miami Beach

After the penultimate session of the women's world pairs championship Jacqui Mitchell and Annalya Kearse, of New York, led by two boards with the Britons Sally Horton and Sandra Landy in fifth place, four-and-a-half boards behind.

In the final session the British women scored 61 per cent and might well have moved into second place but for a miracle session by two 21-year-old Danes who scored 66.4 to move from sixth to the silver medal position.

Horton and Landy took the bronze for the second successive time — Biarritz in 1982 was the previous occasion — and Mitchell and Kearse needed no more than an average final session to clinch the title with something in hand.

Mitchell has won three previous world titles, the women's team olympiad and the Venice Trophy (the world's inter-zonal women's teams championship).

For Kearse this is a first title. As a Federal Circuit Court of Appeals judge she has little time for tournament bridge.

There were dramatic turnabouts in the third and fourth sessions of the open pairs world championship.

In the third session Australians Paul Marston and Stephen Burgess rocketed into top place with a 64 per cent session, two boards clear of the Americans Earl Rodwell and Jeff Meckstroth.

But in the fourth and penultimate session the Australians scored below average to drop into third while Meckstroth and Rodwell moved into first place almost four boards clear of the second-placed Americans Chris Compton and Ed Wold.

The final places are: 1. Meckstroth and Rudwell 3847; 2. Heinrich Berger and Wolfgang Meisl (Austria) 3595; 3. Burgess and Marston 3572; 4. Curtis Compton and Ed Wold (USA) 3558; 5. Gabriel Chagas and Marcelo Branco (Brazil) 3526; 6. Andre Mulder and Max Rebattu, (Netherlands) 3513; 43. Glyn Liggins and Andy Robson (Great Britain) 3041.

The USA, who took gold in all four events, automatically retain the Charles Solomon Cup awarded to the country with the best overall performance.

Before the next pairs olympiad the British bridge authorities must find if outside assistance is unavailable, of giving financial support to its leading pairs so that our performance should represent our high standing in world bridge.

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British women third
winners

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MR KINNOCK'S PARTY

Labour enters its annual conference at Blackpool this week in a higher state of morale and with greater public support than any unprejudiced observer would have thought possible only three years ago.

poverty package and an anti-unemployment package. On these the party gets a reasonably clean bill of health.

deterring while disavowing it and indeed placing obstacles in the way of its operation. The voters are bound to reflect in the three weeks of an election campaign that a policy which relies upon the goodwill of a country is not likely to prove much of a defence.

MR REAGAN RESISTS SANCTIONS

President Reagan vetoed the Congressional Anti-apartheid Bill on Friday night on the grounds that the sanctions it imposed would hurt the very people that they were meant to help.

but contribute significantly to Pretoria's balance of payments. Sanctions on coal have just been rejected by the EEC.

ing or scaling down sanctions in response to reforms introduced by Pretoria. He might thus reduce the international damage in the bill before him.

IN A FARAWAY COUNTRY

Recent events in Czechoslovakia serve to remind us of the grim conditions that prevail in that unhappy country 18 years after the Warsaw Pact invasion.

against the last fragment of 'loyal opposition' has been the arrest on September 2 of eight leading members of the Jazz Section of the Musicians' Union.

Jan Dus and the Jazz Section are both popular in their own country, and both have tried to maintain an open, legal and legitimate posture in their dealings with the authorities.

A spectre over UK industry

From Viscount Watkinson, CH Sir, How right you were to raise the future of Austin Rover in your leader of September 22.

Ensuring funds for rescue digs

From the Director of the Council for British Archaeology Sir, The letter from the Chief Executive of English Heritage (September 25) raises an important issue of principle.

becoming very disillusioned about the alleged protection of AONB designation. The Mendip Hills AONB was designated in 1972.

Help for chemistry

From Professor Emeritus Sir Ewart Jones Sir, I have compiled the following facts, not hitherto available, which are relevant to the current discussion about education, research grants and national needs.

Fears for Mendips

From Mr V. D. Dennison Sir, In their letter (September 9), Wing Commander D.D. Martin and Mr David Hicks wrote about 'the restrictive powers of AONB (area of outstanding natural beauty) designation'.

Not, it appears, by the Southern Area Planning Committee of Woodspring District Council but by this society, the Countryside Commission and many local residents - but who cares about them?

Third World twins

From Mr Paul Williams Sir, Following the correspondence (September 19 and 23) about Third World twins, your readers may be interested to know that in March last year the then Lesotho High Commissioner came to Cardiff to launch the linking of Wales with Lesotho.

Highway justice

From Mr John C. Long Sir, Much attention has been given to the recent extension of fixed penalties for motorists as covered in your leader, 'Highway justice' (September 11).

Such insurance has further relevance, especially at present in the light of calls for contingency fees and no-fault liability, presenting in our view a very worthy and equitable alternative to both.

The Liberal tradition

From Dr Michael Bentley Sir, Mr Jo Grimond's serene mangling of Liberal history (feature, September 24) is as charming as its author; it reads like a retrospective poem composed in the calm of Orkney.

Identity crisis

From the Reverend Ian Gomersall Sir, The Reverend Michael Kemp (September 16) need not worry about seeking an alternative to 'spinster' when reading banners of marriage.

Fruitless question

From Mr J. E. P. Froggatt Sir, May I offer a choice of practical responses to Mr Lee's dilemma (September 22)? Most simply, if the Royal Horticultural Society is to be believed, a planting of the self-fertile J.C. van Tol will give him regular good crops of red berries and regular pollination of his other holly bushes, if female.

Streets ahead

From Mr Martin Knapp Sir, Now that the editorial offices and presses of so many newspapers have a new location, how long will 'Fleet Street' remain as a synonym for the Press?

Polls apart

From the Managing Director of Market and Opinion Research International Sir, B.C. Barton (September 24) advances the alleged fragility of the alliance between the Liberals and the SDP as a reason why opinion polls should show support for the two separately.

Spoiled for choice?

From Dr R. M. Wright Sir, According to your leading article (September 17) Professor Richard Estes downgrades Britain in his 'league of paradise' because of 'lack of political participation in Northern Ireland'.

What you seem to regard as an embarras de richesse, the right to vote for competing shades of Unionism and nationalism, is to the many electors here who want to vote Conservative, or Labour, or Liberal or SDP, simply an embarrassment.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 29 1814

One cause of Britain's war with America, 1812-14, lay in the former forbidding neutral vessels to enter the ports of France, with whom she was at war.

AMERICAN PAPERS. CITY OF WASHINGTON DESTROYED.

This day we have the deplorable task of recording the capture and destruction of the city of Washington, the capital of the United States, six months ago, so one could have thought such an event could have possibly taken place. But this is the age of wonder. The city of Washington, containing valuable public buildings, which have cost the nation millions of money, a large naval arsenal, cannon foundry, etc. etc. - this city, situated at such a distance from the ocean, and only approachable with shipping by long, crooked, and narrow rivers, on a spot selected above all others as the most secure from foreign invasion; - who could have supposed that it could so easily have been destroyed by an enemy? Is it possible, that after being two years at war, our capital, the seat of our general Government, should have been left so defenceless? Can it be believed, that a small armament of a few ships, and from six to ten thousand troops, which came into our waters on the 17th instant, could demolish our capital on the 24th? But such is the fact. In less than one month from the sailing of the expedition from Bermuda, the British General has fixed his headquarters in the heart of our nation, the seat of our Government. What shall we think of such things. Where have our men at the head of affairs been all this time? Why have they taken no measures to defend the capital? Were there no places on the Patuxent or the Potomac, which might have been fortified? Was there no means of defending the property of the nation? Can men who manage in this way be fit to govern a great and free people? Let their constituents answer.

THE BRITISH IN WASHINGTON.

The following further particulars are contained in a private letter from Baltimore, dated August 25: - 'We are all here in a state of the utmost possible confusion, dismay and distress. The British, 15,000 strong, have landed in the Patuxent, marched to Washington, and last night blew up the Capitol, President's House, &c. and completely destroyed the navy yard at Rowland Hill, commanding the city. The 5th regiment, the flower of Baltimore, sustained the fury of the onset; but were soon, with all the associate troops, defeated and fled in every direction, after being miserably mangled. The wounded are hourly arriving here. The victorious army are in full march for this city, and will be here in 36 hours. There is, at this moment, a contest between the civil and military powers, - the former are for sending a capitulating embassy, but the military men will not consent.'

EXTRACT OF ANOTHER LETTER, SAME DATE.

'In the midst of the confusion occasioned by the alarm in the city, and constant removal of property, I will give you the best information I can procure of the present situation of the town. At half past one o'clock yesterday, the advance corps of the British came in sight of Bladenburg. As they were crossing the bridge there, they were attacked by the 5th regiment, from Baltimore, who kept their ground until their ammunition was expended - when they received orders to disperse; and they are now singly dropping into the city. There was but little execution among them, as the object of the British was, evidently, to proceed to Washington without being delayed by fighting. It is understood they reached the city by sun-down, and immediately set about blowing up the capital, and destroying the other public works. Indeed, as it is now understood, they have undisturbed possession of the city. Where General Winder's army has retreated to, is not known. It is said that should the enemy come this way, the city will not make resistance.'

Diminishing returns

From Mr Bruce Marshall Sir, American friends of mine have booked a package tour that brings them to Britain on the QE2 and sends them home on Concorde. Their tickets tell them that they are allowed six pieces of baggage each on the boat, one on the plane. Perhaps Oxford should have a reception centre at Southampton docks. Yours faithfully, BRUCE MARSHALL, 4 Cleveland Square, W2.

car defence k rejects car cover

Firms get extortion warnings

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

THE TIMES MONDAY SEPTEMBER 29 1986

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET (Change on week) FT 30 Share 1238.4 (-30.7) FT-SE 100 1568.6 (-31.8) Bergains 21638 USM (Datastream) 122.24 (-1.96) THE POUND (Change on week) US Dollar 1.4380 (-0.0385) W German mark 2.9429 (-0.0057) Trade-weighted 68.7 (-0.9)

Extel is likely to be 'white knight'

Extel, the printing, news agency and publishing group, is expected to emerge later this week as a 'white knight' in the £146 million takeover bid for banknote printer, McCordale.

Mr Alan Brooker, Extel's chairman and chief executive, would neither confirm nor deny weekend speculation that preliminary discussions had already taken place with McCordale.

Mr Richard Hanwell, chief executive of Yorkshire-based specialist printer Norton Opax, would not be drawn yesterday on the likely intervention of Extel.

Norton Opax, who gave the go-ahead to renew its offer for McCordale last week, within 24 hours fresh terms were on the table - this time a two for one share swap which at Friday's closing prices, values each McCordale share at 280p.

Before news of the possible white knight, Norton and its financial advisers were able to purchase sizeable blocks of McCordale shares at prices around 260p, the level of the cash alternative, taking its stake to almost 13 per cent.

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interims: Asda Property Holdings, Bredero Properties, Bronx Engineering, Early's of Witney, Inchcape, George Ingham, John Fitz (Tyres & Exhausts), John Menzies, Rugby Football Centre, Sag Furniture, United Franchise Insurance, Frank Usher, Warrs, Blake, Bearne, Rex Williams Leisure, Wills Group, Finala: A B Electronic Products, C H Bailey, Danton Group, FII Group, Lysander Petroleum, R H Morley, Process Systems. TOMORROW - Interims: Amari, Arbutnot Dollar Income Trust, Arbutnot Japan Group Fund, Laura Ashley, Biomechanics International, Cussins Property Group, Davidson Pearce Group, Decora, Falcon Industries, Jacques Vert, KCA Drilling Group, Laing Properties, Northern Engineering Industries, Polymark International, Thurgar Bardex

Industrial pay rises lowest in three years

Pay rises in manufacturing industry have fallen to their lowest level for three years, the employers' organization, the Confederation of British Industry, said today. But at 5.5 per cent they remain at least twice as high as the Government and industry say is necessary to prevent the wrecking of industrial competitiveness.

City dubious over Labour's plan for investment bank

The Labour Party's plans for a new National Investment Bank funded by the forced repatriation of overseas investments could have a damaging effect on overseas investment in Britain, according to a study prepared by the Stock Exchange.

Accountants prepare for new standard

The Accounting Standards Committee of the combined accountancy bodies will today launch the publication of a booklet - 'Accounting for the effects of changing prices' - which offers a basis for discussion about the formulation of a new current cost accounting standard.

Channel Tunnel should make £154m in first year

Modest rates of interest and inflation underpin the financial projections for the Channel Tunnel, according to the pathfinder prospectus published today.

China turns back the clock with its first SE since 1949

Months of speculation ended on Friday when China opened in Shanghai its first Stock Exchange since 1949.



£5.5bn chases TSB

When the number crunching was over the TSB share offer attracted more than twice as many applicants as British Telecom - dubbed 'the people's share'.

New gilts market to have second dry run

Another dress rehearsal for the new gilts market is to be held on October 18, a week before the market opens.

US move into Grand Met

One major source of the recent heavy buying of shares in Grand Metropolitan Hotels has declared his hand.

Pressure builds for increase in base rates

Pressure for a politically damaging rise in base rates will intensify this week, after the failure of the leading industrialized countries to agree new initiatives to hold exchange rates steady.

IMF forecasts UK deficit of £900m

The International Monetary Fund sees only a modest upturn in world growth next year and is gloomy about prospects for Britain.

SIEMENS The new Siemens T1000S Telextraordinary. 21-line display screen. Prepare and edit messages like a word processor. Quiet delay wheel print quality. Store received messages for editing. Memory capacity up to 80,000 characters. For further details contact your Siemens authorised dealer. IDC Communications. Communication House, 108 Kilburn High Rd, Kilburn, London NW6 4HT. Tel: 01-625 0271/5. Telex: 295946 IDCOMP G. Fax: 01-328 3822. Siemens in communications - where the future happens first

USM REVIEW

Smaller companies will still play big part after big bang

What is the future of the USM in the new world? Will big bang represent the end of a two-way market in smaller companies and USM shares...

on capital invested and while this is the case, there will be no unwillingness on the part of investors to be players in this market.

Search for oil costs less, says new study

By David Young Energy Correspondent

Oil exploration can still be profitable in many areas of the world even at prices below the current depressed rates...

Isabel Unsworth

The author is a member of the smaller companies unit at Phillips & Drew.

COMMENT

TSB lottery puts little value on privatization

The man interviewed in the queue outside the Trustee Savings Bank had it right. If the Government is giving money away, he said, I want my share.

moving the TSBs into the private sector are so compelling that even the Labour Party has not threatened to renationalize them.

COMPANY NEWS

- ENGLISH TRUST GROUP: An agreed offer is to be made by Phoenix Securities... BRITISH PETROLEUM OF AUSTRALIA: Half-year to June 30... COLLINE INTER-NATIONAL: The company has acquired from the Beswick Division of Dabber...

More company news on page 21

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table with columns: Capitalization, Company, Price, Change, Gross, Div, Dividend, % P/E. Lists various unlisted securities and their market data.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table with columns: Capitalization, Company, Price, Change, Gross, Div, Dividend, % P/E. Lists various investment trusts and their market data.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table with columns: Capitalization, Company, Price, Change, Gross, Div, Dividend, % P/E. Lists various financial trusts and their market data.

TOKYO NON-STOP advertisement for Japan Air Lines. Features a stylized graphic of a flight path and text: 'Japan Air Lines is the only airline to bring Tokyo even closer to London. In fact by operating non-stop flights from London to Tokyo, we offer the fastest route to Japan from the UK.'

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalization and week's change

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end October 10. Contango day October 13. Settlement day September 20.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Portfolio Gold
From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Portfolio Gold
© Times Newspapers Limited
DAILY DIVIDEND
£4,000
Claims required for +58 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Gains or Losses. Lists various companies like Scott & Robertson, Savelle, Wedgwood, etc.

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £24,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

BRITISH FUNDS
Stock on leading F Stock Price Change in Pounds per Share

SHORTS (Under Five Years)
Table listing short positions with columns for company, price, and change.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS
Table listing stock positions for the 5-15 year category.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS
Table listing stock positions for the over 15 years category.

UNDATED
Table listing undated stock positions.

INDEX-LINKED
Table listing index-linked stock positions.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP
Table listing bank discount rates for various banks.

BREWERIES
Table listing brewery companies and their stock prices.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS
Table listing building and road construction companies.

FINANCE AND LAND
Table listing finance and land-related companies.

FOODS
Table listing food and grocery companies.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS
Table listing chemical and plastic companies.

CINEMAS AND TV
Table listing cinema and television companies.

DRAPERY AND STORES
Table listing drapery and retail store companies.

INDUSTRIALS A-D
Table listing industrial companies in the A-D range.

ELECTRICALS
Table listing electrical companies.

Table listing companies in the E-K range.

Table listing companies in the L-R range.

Table listing companies in the S-Z range.

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OVERSEAS TRADERS
Table listing overseas trading companies.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G
Table listing paper, printing, and advertising companies.

PROPERTY
Table listing property-related companies.

MINING
Table listing mining companies.

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT
Table listing motor and aircraft companies.

SHIPPING
Table listing shipping companies.

SHOES AND LEATHER
Table listing shoe and leather companies.

TEXTILES
Table listing textile companies.

TOBACCOS
Table listing tobacco companies.

Table listing companies in the S-Z range.

Astate of co US policy
COMPANY NEWS
FOREIGN EXCHANGE
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES
MONEY MARKETS AND G
TREASURY BILLS
BASE LENDING RATES
TOBACCOS

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page.

ULTRAMAR

Turnover in year ending 31 December 1985: £2,357,800,000. Source: Annual Report 11/3/86.



BURMAH

Turnover not of duties in year ending 31 December 1985: £1,497,900,000. Source: Annual Report 10/4/86.



Group of Seven ministers issue 9-point statement

This is the full text of the nine-point statement issued by the Group of Seven finance ministers in Washington on Saturday.

1. The finance ministers of seven major industrialized countries met today to conduct the first exercise of multilateral surveillance pursuant to the Tokyo Economic Declaration of May 6, 1986. The managing director of the International Monetary Fund also participated in this meeting.



Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, right, and Paul Volcker, the Federal Reserve Board chairman, at the Washington talks.

2. The ministers reviewed recent economic developments and their economic objectives and forecasts collectively, using a range of economic indicators, with a particular view to examining their mutual compatibility and to considering the need for remedial measures.

Decision on trade mark office today

London's choice of a site for the proposed European Community trade mark office is to be announced today by Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology.

British footwear on slide

Footwear deliveries plunged 10 per cent, on a seasonally adjusted basis, in the three months ended July compared with the first quarter of this year.

Advertisement for DIGITAL for COMPAQ, including UNIX, Pick, Networking, Communications, and contact information for Alison Gibson.

Advertisement for J. O. SIMS LIMITED, Companies Act 1985, Section 175 (Registered in England No. 529798), detailing company information and directors.

Advertisement for 30% more with Friendly Societies, featuring Building Society Savings and various investment options.

Degrees awarded by the University of London

Table listing degrees awarded by the University of London across various departments including Economics, Engineering, Law, and Humanities.

Large advertisement for University of Warwick, University of Birmingham, and University of Dundee, featuring a portrait and the slogan 'A change in the career issue'.

WHICH OIL COMPANY COULD DO STRIKINGLY WELL FOR THE PRIVATE INVESTOR?

Advertisement for AFCOR INVESTMENTS LIMITED, The private investors' dealer, offering services for private investors.

APPOINTMENTS

List of appointments including Dowty Group, Commercial Bank of Wales, Total Oil Great Britain, and various other companies.

RENTALS

Kathini Graham
RUTLAND STREET, S.W.7. Immaculate, newly decorated double fronted house. 4 1/2 bedrooms. 3 bathrooms. 2/3 reception, cloakroom. Terrace. Highly recommended. £1000 p.w.

CHESTERIONS
MAYFAIR W1
Palace Properties
We have a superb selection of particularly spacious, landscaped and unfurnished properties in many of the best residential districts, ranging from £150 per week to £2000 per week.

Warning signs for England

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent
Scotland XV..... 33
Japan..... 18
Had Japan kicked their goals at Murrayfield on Saturday, then they, too, would have scored 33 points. That conveniently ignores the three penalty attempts and three conversions which Dods missed, but it does indicate Japan's scoring potential which England face in 12 days' time.



Watching brief: Laidlaw moves in as Matsuo tries to break clear for Japan at Murrayfield

The scrum is a focal point of Japan's domestic game and Chida, the No 8, was able to stand off, so comfortable were his front five. Their binding technique, which effectively shields the hooker from opposition pressure, gave Derrick Grant, Scotland's coach, food for thought as did the fluidity of their passing. "I was very impressed with the handling of their backs and their running, which was very direct," Grant said. "They knew exactly what they wanted to do, their passing was very fast and I think we could learn from them."

Bridgend deserve to be light-headed

By Gerald Davies
Bridgend..... 22
Pontypool..... 6
After the disappointment of Bridgend's defeat against Saracens a week ago, Adrian Owen can now draw much confidence from his team's performances since then. Llanelli and Pontypool are no mean scalps to take in the space of three days.

Cavaliers picked for tour

By David Hands
Jack Hobbs, the Canterbury flanker who captained the New Zealand Cavaliers for much of their unofficial tour to South Africa during the summer, has been reinstated as captain of his country's official team. Hobbs, a 26-year-old lawyer, will lead the tour party of 26 which begins an eight-match visit to France next month.

Favourites emerge with credit

Liverpool St Helens must have travelled to Wigan with some degree of trepidation, recalling the plight of Sale in a former John Player Cup encounter. But all was well from their viewpoint as they triumphed by 18-6 to vindicate the form book (Michael Stevenson writes).

Veterans get a fright from the youngsters

By Nicholas Keith
Saffron Walden..... 9
Blackheath..... 14
Youth showed scant respect for seniority in this first round John Player Cup tie. Saffron Walden, aged 23, proved a sprightly proposition for Blackheath, the Club of 128 years standing, and lost by only a goal and a penalty goal to two tries and two penalties.

Sun sets in the west on pride of Gloucester

By Gordon Allan
Gloucester..... 3
Bristol..... 12
There were no tries at Kingsholm on Saturday, but it was hardly a dull match—in fact when Bath scored six tries last week at Moseley it was far less impressive.

Harlequins deserve win

Despite the loss just before half-time of their prop, Craig Croxford, who was sent off, Harlequins scored a well-deserved win over free-scoring Leicester at Twickenham on Saturday (David Hands writes).

Five from five

Cape Town (Reuters)—Western Province won the Currie Cup final, South Africa's national trophy, for the fifth successive year with a 22-9 victory over Transvaal at Newlands on Saturday. Western Province came from 19 down before two tries in the last few minutes by Goggie van Heerden sealed the cup.

Two out of two

Auckland (AP)—Auckland beat Canterbury 28-15 for the second successive year at Eden Park to win the Ranfurly Shield. New Zealand's most important competition on Saturday, Auckland trailed 15-12 at the break. The Ranfurly Shield is a control to score three tries to Canterbury's two before a crowd of 48,000.

Sale's heroic tackling

By Michael Stevenson
Sale..... 14
Coventry..... 4
Sale's victory over Coventry at Brooklands in the John Smith's Merit Table 'A', by two tries and two penalties to a try, was a classic in one department only. Sale's tackling bordered on the heroic, but had it not done so, they would have been overwhelmed.

Weekend results

Table with 2 columns: Match, Score. Includes TOUR MATCH Scotland XV 33 Japan 18, and various league fixtures like Saffron Walden 9 Blackheath 14, Gloucester 3 Bristol 12, etc.

BELGRAVIA THREE TANTALISING GARDEN FLATS
All recently fitted and furnished. Two bedrooms, two bathrooms and modern kitchen. Large reception room with front and rear balconies. Separate roof garden and GARAGES to each flat. Available for long or short term. Company let.

JEAN WILLIAMS LTD
SUTTON Smart 2 bed flat in p/b block with lift. Living/dining rm, balcony, fitted kit, gas, close station, suit couple only. £200 p.w.

WAINSTEAD. Large modern, 2 bed fully furnished flat in handsome house. 24, Wainstead, Oxon. Co. Tel 01235 5355.

MOORHAYN. Lux 2 bed flat in ideal location, recent fit, p/b, close to station. Tel 01235 5355.

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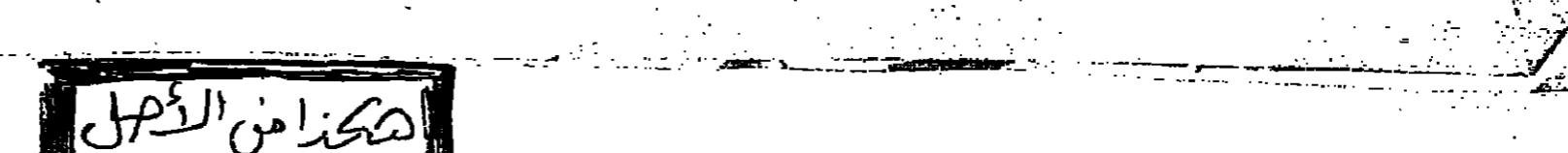
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SENIOR LEGAL SECRETARY
If you have commercial conveying experience, and are also looking for a chance to use your administrative skills working for a senior partner in a friendly 13-partner firm near Chancery Lane, we are offering an interesting, varied position with a attractive salary and career possibilities. Telephone: Mrs Adair 01-242 0801 No agencies



Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

- BBC 1
6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.50 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Sally Magnusson.

- TV-AM
6.15 Good Morning Britain
Produced by Anne Diamond and Adrian Brown.



Wedding day: David Threlkell, Zoe Wansmaker: ITV, 9.00pm

It was distinctly disappointing last Monday night to note that episode two of John Wood's society aware drama serial PARADISE POSTPONED had hit a bumpy patch...

CHOICE
seraf's delights has been the careful emergence of the ambitious Leslie Timms from his humble chrysalis.

Radio 3
On medium wave and VHF/FM (in stereo)
6.35 Open University. Unit 6.35. Education

Radio 4
Friday's edition (r)
5.00 P1 News. 5.55 Shipping. 5.55 Weather.

Radio 2
MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF
News on the hour. Sports Desk 1.00pm, 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00.

ENTERTAINMENTS
CONCERTS
BARBICAN HALL 428 5745-5850
APOLLO THEATRE 457 2600

THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY
"THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS"
"THE MOUNTAIN MAN"
"THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA"

LA CAGE AUX FOLLES
"THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA"
"THE BUSINESS OF MURDER"
"SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS"

THE HIT MUSICAL
"LA CAGE AUX FOLLES"
"THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA"
"THE BUSINESS OF MURDER"

THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY
"THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS"
"THE MOUNTAIN MAN"
"THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA"

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"THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA"

THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY
"THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS"
"THE MOUNTAIN MAN"
"THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA"

